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FYLDE RURAL DISTRICT

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ANNUAL REPORT

on the Sanitary and Housing Conditions

For the Year

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L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
FRED S. ROSCOE, M.S.I.A.,Cert. R.S.I.,
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER *of* HEALTH

For the year 1943

To the Fylde Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I present to you my Fourth Report as your Medical Officer of Health. At the request of the Ministry of Health it is purely of an interim character. As the Council are aware, my period of office dates from 1st April, 1940.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA.—The area of the Fylde Rural District is at present 33,159 statute acres.

POPULATION.—The population as per the census, 1931, was 15,750, and the estimated population (1943), 10,290.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—The district is chiefly an agricultural one.

BIRTHS.—According to available figures, there were 212 births during the year belonging to your area, divided as 121 males and 91 females.

DEATHS.—These figures are obtained from figures supplied by the local registrars. There is seen to be a total of 112 deaths of which 51 were males and 61 females.

Ambulance Facilities.—The Ambulance facilities for the district are very good.

(*a*) For Infectious cases: The Moss Side Isolation Hospital has a Motor Ambulance for conveyance of patients to the Hospital. The Elswick Sanatorium has also a Motor Ambulance for tuberculous patients.

(*b*) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases: A Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of necessitous non-infectious and accident cases is hired by the Council when required.

There are privately owned ambulance services in Wesham Blackpool and Preston which provide comfortable transport for those who can afford to pay the cost.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is provided by the County Council, and is situate in Mellor Road, Kirkham. The Centre is open for consultation and treatment on Thursday of each week, from 2 p.m. till 4 p.m.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.—Use is made of the Dispensary at Elswick Sanatorium. This is under the care of the Medical Officer of that Institution.

School Clinic.—The Medical Inspection of School Children is carried out in all Schools by the School Medical Officer acting under the County Council. One of the advantages of the new scheme is that the Medical Officer of Health for the area is responsible for the School Medical Inspections.

Venereal Diseases Clinic.—Treatment is given at the Preston Royal Infirmary, under a scheme of the County Council.

Comments.—There has again been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year. Regarding causes of sickness or invalidity, there has been nothing noteworthy.

The district is largely agricultural and is on the whole a healthy district. With the exception of mill work, there are no occupations which one could term prejudicial to health. Employment has been good throughout the year; this has been reflected in the improvement in the health of the children as demonstrated in routine medical inspections.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Hospitals and Other Institutions available for the District.

Hospital Accommodation.—There are 3 Hospitals in the district, and one Sanatorium, viz., The Fylde Joint Isolation Hospital, at Moss Side, near Lytham, 64 beds, which is used for Infectious Diseases. This Hospital is used by the following districts:—Fleetwood, Poulton, Thornton, Fylde Rural, Kirkham, Lytham St. Annes, and occasionally by outlying districts.

Patients are not required to contribute towards cost of treatment. The cost of hospital treatment for infectious diseases to the Rural District for the year ending March 31st, 1943, was £76 11s. 3d., and for the year ending March 31st, 1944, £121 14s. 6d.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

There have been no arrangements made by the Local Authority for nursing in the home, but three separate District Nursing Associations operate in the district. Each employs one nurse, and are self-supporting, no financial obligations falling on the district.

LABORATORY WORK.

The examination of specimens for the detection of the Diphtheria organism has been carried out at the Preston Royal Infirmary Laboratory.

Specimens of sputum are sent to Elswick Sanatorium for the detection of the Tubercle bacillus.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL ACTS OR GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS.

There have been no new local acts or adoption of any acts during the year.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

An outbreak of Measles in May, causing 72 cases, was the only outstanding event as regards infectious disease. Five cases of Diphtheria occurred, all of them were amongst the non-immunised population.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, during the year 1943.

An intensive campaign has been carried out throughout the year to secure the protection of the children in the area against Diphtheria. The results which may be considered exceptionally good, are as follows :—

IMMUNISATION.

(1) Pre-School Children, 0-4 years. Total : 768.

No. Immunised, 1943.	Total immunised	%
147	443	57.7

(2) School Children, 5-14 years. Total, 1,456.

No. Immunised, 1943.	Total Immunised.	%
51	1,237	85

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1943.

"NOTIFIABLE" DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.														Hospital	
	Total Cases at All Ages.	Years.												Total Deaths.	Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to District.
		Under 1.	1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-20.	20-35.	35-45.	45-65.	65 and over.			
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	17	...	...	...	1	...	8	5	2	...	1	...	...	...	15	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia / Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	6	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	...
Diphtheria, including Membraneous Croup	5	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	5	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria contracted abroad ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
In this country	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...
Any other diseases notifiable in district, e.g.—Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles and German Measles ...	72	...	1	11	2	8	43	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping Cough...	13	...	...	1	2	2	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	118	...	1	14	5	12	59	15	4	...	4	1	3	1	26	...

New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
5—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
15—	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
20—	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—	2	2	2	...	1	1	...	...
35—	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
45—	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	6	3	5	1	1	1	1	...

All the cases which died had already been notified under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations.

Notification of Tuberculosis in the Fylde Rural District is, usually, fairly good, and no action has been necessary with regard to wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

The district is under the care of the Medical Officer of the Elswick Sanatorium. Every week, notifications of Tuberculosis (if any) are sent to the County Council. The Tuberculosis Officer visits each patient with the Medical Attendant, and, where necessary, domiciliary or sanatorium treatment is given. On the occasion of death, or removal to a sanatorium, the dwellings are disinfected.

I wish to express my appreciation of the co-operation which is always freely available both from the members of the Council and fellow-officials.

Your obedient Servant,

L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Fylde Rural District Council

WESHAM.

To the Chairman and Members of the Fylde Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Eighteenth Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1943.

The following is a Summary of the work carried out during the past year :—

Informal notices	43
Statutory notices	7
Legal proceedings	Nil

MILK SUPPLY.—This, on the whole, is good. No milk is imported into the district.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders are carried out by the Fylde Rural Authority.

There are 327 Cowkeepers and 11 Registered Dairymen or Milksellers.

The approximate number of Cows in the district is 8,560.

WATER SUPPLY.

The approximate number of houses in your District with a direct supply from the mains of the Fylde Water Board is 2,613. Approximate number of houses supplied from other sources, 174. The district is very favourably situated in this respect.

SEDIMENT TESTS.

Forty-seven samples of milk were examined, five of which proved unsatisfactory.

Bacteriological : No. of samples, seven ; all satisfactory.

Tuberculous Milk ; No. of samples, five, all negative.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are 7 licensed Slaughter-houses in the district.

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	—	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	3	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	3	—	—

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects. Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) — insufficient	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) — unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) — not separate for sexes			—	
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—

Bakehouses.

There are 9 bakehouses. The sanitary condition of these is satisfactory.

Closet Accommodation.

No. of Middens	1,083
,, Pail Closets	164
,, Fresh Water Closets	1,424
,, Waste Water Closets	13
,, Dry Ashpits	379
,, Movable Ashbins	1,263

Offensive Trades.

Nil.

Byelaws were adopted in 1886.

Registered Factories.

Number of Factories on the Register at the end of the year, 46.

Disinfection.

The number of houses disinfected total 29. The rooms are all sealed, and bedding, etc., is hung up in the room and left for 8 hours ; then all washable articles are soaked for a further 24 hours in liquid disinfectant.

HOUSING.

(A) Statistics.

Number of new houses erected during the year... ...	Nil.
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) :—	
(i) By the Local Authority	—
(ii) By other Local Authorities...	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	—

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—

(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above)... ... ... —

(ii) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii) above)... ... ... —

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 126

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.. 126

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 7

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 7

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... Nil.

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 2

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice :—

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 27

Action under statutory powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936... ... ... Nil.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners ... ... Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 27

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—

(a) By owners 29

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... —

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... Nil.

Housing Act 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ... Nil.

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein... ... Nil.

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein... ... Nil.

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ... Nil.

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ... Nil.

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases... Nil.

During the year the new Sewage Disposal Works and sewer extension were put into operation at Warton.

Your obedient Servant,

FRED S. ROSCOE.

30/10/44. B.S.R.